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USSR STRENGTHENS MILITARY POWER IN FAR EAST;  
CHINESE REINFORCE NORTHEAST BORDER TROOPS

USSR INCREASES SUBMARINE, AIR UNITS -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao, 20 Jul 50

A well-informed political observer on Soviet affairs has reported that the USSR is now increasing her military power in the Far East. He stated that more than 100 Soviet submarines are now stationed in Far Eastern waters, operating from the Soviet naval bases at Dairen, Port Arthur, Vladivostok, Sovetskaya Gavan, Ti-k'o-la-yeh-wei-k'o [Chinese approximation of Russian name], located in Siberia opposite the northern tip of Sakhalin, and Petropavlovsk. A naval base in the Kurile Islands, he said, is also being developed by the USSR.

With regard to Soviet air and ground force units, he estimated that no less than 35 divisions, including armored and air transport, are now deployed throughout the Far East. He also added that the USSR now has more than 20 airfields scattered throughout Siberia, Mongolia, and the Northeast from which some 4,000 Soviet aircraft of all types can operate.

A recent radio broadcast from Moscow reported that rapid progress is being made in the construction of highways in Outer Mongolia and that the double tracking of the Trans-Siberian Railroad is progressing smoothly. It is possible to surmise from this report that the USSR may not be carrying out its plan of transferring its vital industries behind the Ural Mountains and in Siberia.

USSR TROOPS IN NORTHEAST -- Hong Kong Kung-shang Jih-pao, 18 Jul 50

Taihoku, 17 July -- Reports from behind the enemy lines indicate that with the increasing tension in the Far East, the Soviet Union is now transferring sizable military forces into the Northeast as well as along the border of China and Korea.

The main headquarters of the Soviet forces in the Northeast is at Harbin where a mechanized division and a tank division are stationed. Deployment of other Soviet divisions in the Northeast is as follows: Ch'ang-ch'un, one rifle

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division; Mukden, one mechanized division; and An-tung, Chin-chou, and Shan-hai-kuan, three mechanized divisions and one artillery division.

It is also reported that the Soviet Union has increased its units stationed at Port Arthur and Dairen by two rifle divisions, one tank division, one artillery division, one antiaircraft division, and a cavalry unit. A sizable number of air force personnel are also said to be stationed in the areas between Ch'ang-ch'un and Ch'i-ch'i-ha-erh.

The main headquarters at Harbin is said to be under the direct command of Mi-lieh-su-k'o-fu [probably Marshal of the Soviet Union Meretskov] Commander of the Maritime Military District.

CCF CONCENTRATING TROOPS ON KOREAN BORDER -- Hong Kong Kung-shang Jih-pao, 18 Jul 50

Korean Front, 17 July -- According to police authorities of the Taehan Republic, Kim Il-song recently held a conference with CCF leaders at Mukden to discuss the military situation along the Korean border. This confirms the recent report made by the Central News Agency that the Chinese Communists are now concentrating 20,000 troops on the Korean border.

Both Korean and Chinese sources reported that some 80,000 Korean troops who fought with the CCF in the Northeast were recently sent back to North Korea to participate in the Korean war. While with the CCF, the majority of these troops were assigned to the army group commanded by Li Hung-kuang (1) [Number refers to appended characters. It is possible that Li Hung-kuang may be a Korean, in which case, his name would be Yi Hong-kwang], while some of them were assigned by the CCF 164th and 166th Divisions.

The 164th and 166th Divisions were reorganized into the North Korean Fifth and Sixth Divisions, respectively. It is also said that the North Korean 18th Division was organized by Korean troops which were on duty with the CCF [00-W-12464 gives a PW's report that the 18th Division is made up of Chinese Communist troops. This PW says that the 18th Army was assigned to garrison Seoul and that it had been half destroyed by US air attacks].

With regard to Li Hung-kuang, there was a report that he died 2 years ago, but the latest information from Korea states that he is still alive and that he was transferred from China to Korea in December 1949.

TRANSFERS CANTON AIR FORCE PERSONNEL TO NORTHEAST -- Hong Kong Kung-shang Jih-pao, 24 Jul 50

Canton, 22 July -- Of the original 280 Chinese Communist air force personnel who were placed on duty at the T'ien-ho and Pai-yun airfields in Canton, after graduating, from the Chinese Communist air force academy, 140 were recently transferred to airfields in the Northeast, including those at Mukden and Chin-chou.

Before assignment to airfields in Canton, these men were sent to the USSR to receive part of their training. During their stay in Canton, they were under the command of Chinese Communist Air Force Commander Liu Ya-lou.

It is said that repair work on a number of former Japanese planes is now being done at T'ien-ho airfield by ground crew units sent from the Northeast. To date, they have completed repair on several of these planes and test flights are now being made.

#### CHARACTERS

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